



Lafayette College Student Government General Body Meeting

Thursday, June 25th, 2026, 7:00 PM, *Zoom*

CALL TO ORDER

Secretary Cohen called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Parliamentarian Atuhaire motioned to approve the minutes from May 7, 2026. Senator Lily Nylund seconded the motion, and it was unanimously approved.

ATTENDEES

Roll call was conducted by Hayden Cohen, Secretary. The attendance was recorded via this [sheet](#).

Present:

Allie Waxman '28, President
Grace Vale '27, Treasurer
Hayden Cohen '29, Secretary
Evalina Ibrahim '29, Inclusivity Officer
Amy Atuhaire '29, Parliamentarian

Ahmir Crawley '27, Senator
Matthew Epp '27, Senator
Lily Hoffman '27, Senator
Roy Nisson '27, Senator
Lily Nylund '27, Senator

Anoosh Ahsan '28, Senator
Will Bennett '28, Senator
Emerson Casper '28, Senator
Eniyah Rolle '28, Senator

Chloe Miller '28, Senator

Josh George '29, Senator

Gwyn Horn '29, Senator

Adil Kulmanov '29, Senator

Clovis-Lato Nkamga '29, Senator

Zara Wilson '29, Senator

Absent:

Annabel Hooey '28, Vice President

Ryan Burns '27, Senator

Kate SantaMaria '27, Senator

Josh Horenstein '28, Senator

Doga Uzel '28, Senator

Matt Valenta '29, Senator

Hannah Cohen '29, Student Observer

Teddy Sukernik '29, Student Observer

BUSINESS

Vote on Money for Grants

Senator Nkamga motioned to approve 15,000 to create grants to go to clubs within the next academic year. Inclusivity Officer Ibrahim seconded the motion. It was unanimously approved.

President Waxman proposed that the Religious life presentation be moved to be before the LAF and Student Involvement presentation. Inclusivity Officer Ibrahim motioned to approve the Religious life presentation be moved to be before the LAF and Student Involvement presentation. Senator Nkamga seconded the motion.

LAF and Student Involvement Presentation

They're here requesting funds today to push interfaith work. A budget sheet is a value statement and this is an opportunity for people in RSL to share how budgeting plays a part in their organizations, and push equitable treatment. It will give people a different lens in advocating for religious needs (budget-wise) by now having them as a resource.

This process is a pilot program (first time it's being done!). Some religious organizations submit a budget for the year rather than the semester. Then, budgets will be reviewed by their advisors, and Rabbi Alex and Chaplain Alex subsequently.

Rabbi Alex Malanych then showed a chart showing that the expenses for RSL groups the past 3 years underspent, and will now have a few more groups added to the elliptical budget. RSL is

requesting \$35,000 for the academic year to split amongst all of the RSL groups.

Questions:

A couple of groups (including LEAF) were not previously eligible/active to receive funds, but now are. The \$35k requested last year was for fewer active groups, so now adding these groups necessitates more budget allocations for RSL this upcoming academic year.

Rabbi Alex then realized that they didn't previously understand that Stress less and Buddhist meditation weren't included in the RSL budget.

Supervisor Allison Williams intervened, and said that the number Rabbi Alex came up with would've been \$35k, with or without Stress Less and Buddhist Meditation.

The increase is largely due to groups having more activities than previously (leading to higher transportation costs, etc.). And a significant amount of money didn't get transferred for Hillel Transfers. The theory is that even though it says it wasn't spent, the money was spent, just not recorded in the appropriate place.

Treasurer Vale added, she was picturing a lower number because of what was spent in previous years. Originally when they said it was more because of added groups, she understood, but now she's wondering why the increase is necessary. If we're seeing 10k in a gap, previously, is the goal for them to spend more?

Chaplain Alex responded: one of the reasons for the interfaith council is to have more activities and partnership. This may mean more funds needed in places that weren't needed before because they're increasing activity within their organization, and externally in order to create more inclusion and belonging across campus. They're asking for generosity in this first year so they can gather data.

Inclusivity Officer Ibrahim asked: Is this a one time budget number for both semesters? And is this a final number? Is there any room for unanticipated requests?

- Answer (from Advisor Allison Williams): Yes, this is a one time number for the academic year, without RSL eligibility for unanticipated requests from Student Government.
- Chaplain Alex added that they hope a year from now they will have more data of what the groups are truly spending/why they're spending/why they're not.

Senator Ahsan added: She understands that this program is happening to encourage more intersectionality of groups and activity. Under what policy will allocations persist within the Interfaith Council? Is it under Student Government spending guidelines? Will you be looking for Student Government representation on this board?

- Answer from Chaplain Alex: Yes, we will be working within the Student Government guidelines for finances. And that would be a great idea to have Student Government liaison.

Religious Life Presentation

Melissa Dalrymple presented on behalf of Student Involvement. A lot of the areas on the screen provide opportunities for class years and campus as a whole to have programming. This is essentially identical to what they requested last year, and for background, previously they requested less for summer programming than they have in the past.

First year class amount is designed to focus on the big first-year experiences (welcome week programming, 1000 nights, first fiesta)

Senior year class amount (Senior week, 100 nights, 100 hours).

Sophomore year and junior are requesting less because they were in a different season of their college life, they didn't feel like there was ample attendance. They didn't see the engagement or the need to engage, as they have other outlets that they look to more than Student Involvement in terms of social-life and programming. Love at Lafayette, building connections are both programs that are held for these years.

LAF Portion:

Lauren Finlay introduced herself and Sadie Wooley and Tommy Quilty. They are an organization that programs for the entire Lafayette community. Their board is made up of 25 students, and 3 committees (Traditions, Entertainment, and Late Night Programming).

They are asking for \$95k from Student Government, with \$25k going to the Entertainment Committee and \$70k to the Traditions Committee.

Tommy shared that this is a new request for this year as they've seen a gap in their programming for students wanting to go off-campus. They would like to do one trip per month, 2 buses (50-80 attendees) from exploring Lehigh Valley, Dorney Park, exploring other cities, etc.

Breakdown via this [link](#)

Treasurer Vale asked how are you going to figure out who the 40-80 people are when going on these trips?

- Answer: We've had great success posting an opening time and using OurCampus to do that work for them by having students sign up. First come first serve, and typically at a time when classes aren't running. They also like to take a fee to ensure that students aren't signing up in advance and then bailing, therefore taking the experience away from other students.

Treasurer Vale then asked if they have wiggle room in their budgets, or is down to what everything costs?

- Answer: The amounts are accurate, and if they need additional funding, Student Involvement covers the rest. They noticed previously that they were really under for Spring Fest (hence the drop), and they allocated this leftover to other events in this proposed budget. Their data is a little skewed due to the Bicentennial Fund supporting a lot of their events.

Senator Ahsan asked if there's any way for Student Government to be a part of these events or work at them?

- Lauren Finlay added that it would definitely be an option, and they would love to see more teamwork. Especially for the larger events (fall fest, rivalry week) they would love more volunteers.

Discussion on Firstfest contribution

During orientation, LAF puts on First fest, but Student Government has always contributed something. In the past, we've contributed a candy bar.

Secretary Cohen suggested a galaxy doughnut wall

Senator Nkamga suggested "tap me to learn more about this planet", and facts about various planets

Senator Nylund suggested beaded bracelets that are glow in the dark

Senator Miller suggested a glitter tattoo station with spaced themed tattoos

OPEN FLOOR

Kris DeJesus from Recreation shared some perspective on why requested budgets from sports organizations may come in higher than clubs of different categories:

"For the club ice hockey teams (women and men) they have to rent ice time, and what they ask for is going to be high so he wanted to provide perspective. Another example of why their costs could be high is having a Coach, EMS squad, and Athletic trainer on site when they host on campus matches/games."

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The next meeting is 7/23 at 7pm! The meeting after that is 8/13 at 7pm. We will not meet the first week of class, as precedent has been.

We're continuing various Workshops in the fall. The next one will be conflict resolution with Dr. Jefferies. Date TBD

Student Government is hosting a carnival in the fall, date tbd as well!

Secretary Cohen motioned to enter the executive session. It was seconded by Parliamentarian Atuhaire and unanimously approved.

Inclusivity Officer Ibrahim motioned to exit the executive session. It was seconded by Senator Nylund and unanimously approved.

BUDGET APPROVALS:

Treasurer Vale went over the details pertaining to the budget requests (in Executive Session) with the following outcome:

Treasurer Vale motioned to approve allocating Student Involvement at \$135k. Inclusivity Ibrahim seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Treasurer Vale motioned to approve allocating \$93k to LAF. Inclusivity Ibrahim seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Inclusivity Officer Ibrahim motioned to vote on the approval of \$35k for RSL's yearly budget. Senator Nkamga seconded the motion. The motion was rejected.

Total requested funds: \$786,101.13

Total allocated funds: \$259,732.05

Treasurer Vale filed a motion to approve the \$259,732.05 allocation of funds for the Period A Budgets. Inclusivity Officer Ibrahim seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

ADJOURNMENT

Secretary Cohen motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:33PM. Senator Nkamga seconded the motion and it was unanimously approved.

Submitted by

Hayden Cohen '29, Secretary